

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF INDIANA  
SOUTH BEND DIVISION

WILLIE ROGERS

Plaintiff,

v.

CLERK OF COURT, ST. JOSEPH  
COUNTY, SOUTH BEND DIVISION and  
CLERK OF COURT, ST. JOSEPH  
COUNTY, MISHAWAKA DIVISION,

Defendants.

CAUSE NO. 3:25-CV-166 DRL-SJF

OPINION AND ORDER

The court dismissed Willie Rogers's suit, denied his motion for leave to proceed *in forma pauperis*, and denied his motion for a preliminary injunction after determining his complaint didn't meet federal pleading standards and any amendment would be futile. Mr. Rogers then filed a motion requesting the court reconsider its judgment and leave to amend his complaint. The court denies the motion.

Mr. Rogers is a defendant in a collections case in Indiana state court. He alleges he received deficient notice of a hearing, which led to him missing the hearing and the court then entering default judgment against him. He now seeks a declaratory judgment that his procedural due process rights were violated under the Fourteenth Amendment and prospective injunctive relief ordering the state courts to implement proper and adequate notice procedures going forward. The *Rooker-Feldman* doctrine still precludes the court's review. Mr. Rogers seeks relief from injury caused by an Indiana state court judgment, exactly the type of claim the doctrine bars. *Sykes v. Cook Cnty. Cir. Ct. Prob. Div.*, 837 F.3d 736, 742 (7th Cir. 2016). Though here he alleges his

constitutional rights were violated, the relief he seeks from this court would necessarily invalidate the state court's judgment, which this court can't do. Any remedy he might seek on this front must be to the state appellate courts.

Any amendment would be futile. *Hukic v. Aurora Loan Servs.*, 588 F.3d 420, 432 (7th Cir. 2009). This court cannot hear his claims. Accordingly, the court DENIES the motion to reconsider and grant leave to amend [7].

SO ORDERED.

March 21, 2025

s/ *Damon R. Leichty*  
Judge, United States District Court